Applicant: Paul Hoisington et al. Attorney's Docket No.: 09991-019001

Serial No.: 10/020,217

Filed: December 18, 2001

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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-36. (Cancelled)

37. (Previously presented) A method of depositing ink comprising:

delivering ink to an ink chamber; and

applying a jetting voltage across a first electrode and a second electrode on a face of a stiffened piezoelectric element to subject ink within the chamber to a jetting pressure, thereby depositing ink from an exit orifice of the ink chamber, wherein the stiffened piezoelectric element has a region spanning the ink chamber and being substantially completely exposed to the ink chamber, the exposed region having a curved surface over the ink chamber, the curved surface having a substantially constant radius of curvature and being concave relative to the ink chamber.

- 38. (Previously presented) The method of claim 37, wherein the piezoelectric element includes lead zirconium titanate.
- 39. (Previously presented) The method of claim 37, wherein the jetting voltage is less than 60 volts.
- 40. (Previously presented) The method of claim 37, wherein the substantially constant radius of curvature is less than 5 millimeters.

41 – 47 (Cancelled)

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48. (New) The method of claim 37, wherein the piezoelectric element has a thickness of 5 to 300 microns.

- 49. (New) The method of claim 37, wherein the piezoelectric element has a thickness of 10 to 250 microns.
- 50. (New) The method of claim 37, wherein the piezoelectric element has a thickness of less than 100 microns.
- 51. (New) The method of claim 37, wherein the chamber has a width of less than 1200 microns.
- 52. (New) The method of claim 37, wherein the chamber has a width of 50 to 1000 microns.
- 53. (New) The method of claim 37, wherein the chamber has a width of 100 to 800 microns.
- 54. (New) The method of claim 37, wherein the curved surface has a radius of curvature of 500 to 3000 microns.
- 55. (New) The method of claim 37, wherein the curved surface has a radius of curvature of 1000 to 2800 microns.
- 56. (New) The method of claim 37, wherein the curved surface has a radius of curvature of 1500 to 2600 microns.
- 57. (New) The method of claim 37, wherein the electrodes are configured to apply a voltage of less than 60 volts.
 - 58. (New) The method of claim 37, further comprising a series of chambers.

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59. (New) The method of claim 59, wherein each of the chambers is covered by a single piezoelectric element.

60. (New) The method of claim 37, wherein the chamber includes a wall contacting the piezoelectric element exposed to the ink chamber at an angle of greater than ninety degrees.